Deepwater Horizon Incident, Gulf of Mexico

Region 6 REOC Update

Subject: **Region 6 Update # 26**
Deepwater Horizon Incident, Gulf of Mexico
Date: May 23, 2010
To: Incident Command
Thru: Planning Section
From: Situation Unit
Operational Period: May 21, 2010 0700 – May 25, 2010 0700
Reporting Period: May 22, 2010 1300 – May 23, 2010 1300

1. Background

Site Name:	Deepwater Horizon Incident	**FPN#:**	N10036
Mobilization Date:	4/27/2010	**Start Date:**	4/28/2010

2. Current Situation

- The incident status summary as reported in the BP Situation Executive Summary as of 0600 on 5/23:
    - 22,236 personnel and 1,103 offshore vessels are currently responding to the incident.
    - Over 1.73 million feet of containment boom and 739,000 feet of sorbent boom have been deployed.
    - Over 243,000 barrels of an oil-water mix have been recovered.
    - A total of 36 controlled burns have been conducted.
    - On 5/22, containment operations on the Discoverer Enterprise were conducted using a Riser Insertion Tube Tool to optimize recovery rates.
    - On 5/22, 42,000 feet of containment boom were deployed along the mouth of the Mississippi River.
    - Subsea dispersant injection continued on 5/22 at a rate of 10 gallons per minute. Crews plan to continue subsea dispersant injection on 5/23.

Summary of Dispersant Data

	TOTALS for Reporting Period (gal.)	TOTALS to date (gal.)
Surface	52,946	686,854
Subsurface	14,130	101,759

2.1 (USCG) Incident Command Post (Houma, LA)

- Controlled burning operations were not conducted on 5/22 due to the continued re-provisioning of boats. Refitting operations were completed on 5/22 and controlled burning operations are scheduled to begin on 5/23.
- Approximately 35,000 gallons of surface dispersants were applied on 5/22 by planes.
- Approximately 12,000 barrels of an oil and water mixture were recovered through skimming operations.
- The M/V Odyssey Ranger conducted water sampling at the Louisiana Offshore Oil Port (LOOP). All results have indicated that LOOP has not been impacted by the spill.
- EPA coordinated with SCAT to ensure the SCAT shoreline recovery plan addressed all the best management practices identified by EPA Water Division.
- EPA conducted air sampling for dispersants onboard the M/V Warrior on 5/22.

2.2 (USCG) Area Command Post (Robert, LA)

- Personnel created charts displaying daily and cumulative totals for dispersant application.

2.3 Air Monitoring/Sampling

- EPA continues to conduct air monitoring and sampling in Venice operations area (VOCs and Particulates):
  - Venice, LA - 29.25274 N, 89.35750 W - V02;
  - Boothville, LA - 29.31449 N, 89.38433 W - V03;
  - Fort Jackson, LA – 29.35699 N, 89.45487 W - V05.
- EPA continues to conduct air monitoring and sampling in Chalmette operations area (VOCs and Particulates):
  - Poydras, LA – 29.86609, -89.89108 - C02 - located at Fire Station number 8;
  - Chalmette, LA - 29.96082, -90.00132 - C04 - located at FireStation on Aycock St.
  - Hopedale, LA, - 29.84049, -89.68980 - C05 - located at Fire Station number 11.
- Each air monitoring location has 4 pieces of air equipment:
  - EBAM (Particulate Monitors)-equipment has replaced DataRAM's;
  - AreaRae/MultiRae - monitoring VOCs;
  - PQ200 - samples for PM2.5;
  - SUMMA Canisters per location - sample for VOCs.
- Air monitoring/sampling stations are monitored throughout the day (24 hours) for immediate reporting of any elevated VOC or particulate levels. The maximum reading is reported to the OSC at Mobile Command Post in Venice and Chalmette.
- Real-time air monitoring data from midnight to midnight each day is reviewed for field QA and uploaded into SCRIBE by 1200 each day and available to EPA Headquarters, REOC, and external response partners.
- An exceedance of the hourly average for PM-10 at location C02 between 2300 and 2400 on 5/21/10 was noted. The data used to comprise the hourly average indicated that the readings spiked for approximately 30 minutes in the middle of the reporting hour. The Chalmette air team visited the monitor at 2315 and documented site conditions as normal with no visible particulates, and no extenuating meteorological conditions. A subsequent visit at 0125 indicated similar conditions.

Personnel at the Houma Incident Command Post confirmed that no burning occurred on 5/21. The exceedance was likely caused by vehicular traffic at the fire station.

- On 5/22, monitoring data for VOCs, H_2S, and CO at location V02 were not logged from approximately 1000 through 1400 due to instrument malfunction.

EPA summary of air monitoring/sampling activities:

Air Monitoring & Samples	DataRAM (PM10)	AreaRae	SUMMA Canisters	PM2.5	TOTALS FOR 5/22
Venice	3 locs/24-hr	3 locs/24-hr	3	3	6
Chalmette	3 locs/24-hr	3 locs/24-hr	3	3	6
TOTAL TO DATE	6 locs/24-hr	6 locs/24-hr	253	132	

*QAQC samples not included in sample count

2.4 Water/Sediment Sampling

- EPA continues to conduct water sampling at locations provided by EPA Headquarters and selected through National Coastline Condition Assessment (NCCA) program. The NCCA sample locations are sampled every four years by state agencies with U.S. Coastlines. Sample parameters and locations were also selected in coordination with the EPA Region 6 Water Quality Division.

- Representatives from the Water Division and the REOC Environmental Units from R6 and R4 conduct a conference call three times a week with the HQ EOC to discuss the coordination and consistency of water and sediment sampling across the Deepwater Horizon Incident Response.

- The Chalmette water operations team plans to collect water samples from four points of concern in the Terrebonne and Timbalier Bays area. Samples will be collected from these locations once every 3-5 days.

- On 5/22, Chalmette water operations collected samples from three additional sampling locations (NCA-10-2339, NCA-10-2335 and SW0010) in the Timbalier Bay area.

- The Venice water operations team plans to collect water samples from six points of concern located in the area near the Southeast and Northeast Passes of the Mississippi River. Samples will be collected from these locations once every 3-5 days.

- On 5/22, samples were collected from three of the targeted locations, 2003, SW02 and SW03. Additionally, 1 oil sample was collected from an area of observed oil near Blind Bay.

- The Venice water operations team observed an area of oil within Redfish Bay which appeared to be previously treated with dispersant.

EPA summary of water/sediment activities:

Water/Sediment Samples	Water	Sediment	TOTALS FOR 5/22
Venice	4	0	4
Chalmette	3	0	3
TOTAL TO DATE	104	71	

*QAQC samples not included in sample count

2.5 TAGA

- On 5/22, TAGA performed mobile monitoring for oil dispersant indicator compounds, OD-00 and OD-27, in Southern LA from Stennis, MS to Grand Isle, LA. All observed OD-00 and OD-27 indicator compounds were associated with a point source.
- TAGA plans to perform mobile monitoring for oil dispersant indicator compounds, OD-00 and OD-27, on 5/23 in Southern MS and AL.

2.6 ASPECT.

- On 5/22, ASPECT flew along a route from Gulfport, LA to the recovery area, along the southern delta, to Brush Island, LA and back to Gulfport, LA. Spectral, IR and photographic data was collected at approximately 2 minute intervals along the flight profile. No burns were reported.
- On 5/23, ASPECT plans to collect data over oil burning operations and to conduct reconnaissance examinations of oiled shorelines.

2.7 Water Quality Protection Division Update

- A Water Quality Protection Division situation update was not provided.

3. EPA Assets

3.1 Current Assets Deployed

- Activated in Dallas, TX
  - REOC activated
  - SRICT activated
  - RRT activated

Deployed Personnel

Personnel	Dallas, TX	Robert, LA	Houma, LA	New Orleans, LA	Chalmette, LA	Venice, LA	Slidell, LA	TOTALS
EPA								
- OSC	3		1		3	1		8
- RSC	5	1	1					7
- PIO		3						3
- Other	3	2	1	1				7
START	5				13	16		34
ERT Contractor								
TAGA Personnel							5	5
ASPECT Personnel							4	4
Other								
TOTALS	16	6	3	1	16	17	9	67

Deployed Equipment

Equipment	Dallas, TX	Robert, LA	Houma, LA	New Orleans, LA	Chalmette, LA	Venice, LA	Slidell, LA	TOTALS
Mobile Command Post						1		1
ASPECT							1	1
TAGA Bus							1	1
LRV		1			1			2
Gooseneck Trailer						1		1
20 KW Generator						1		1
Dually Truck (R7)					1			1
Boat (R7)					1			1

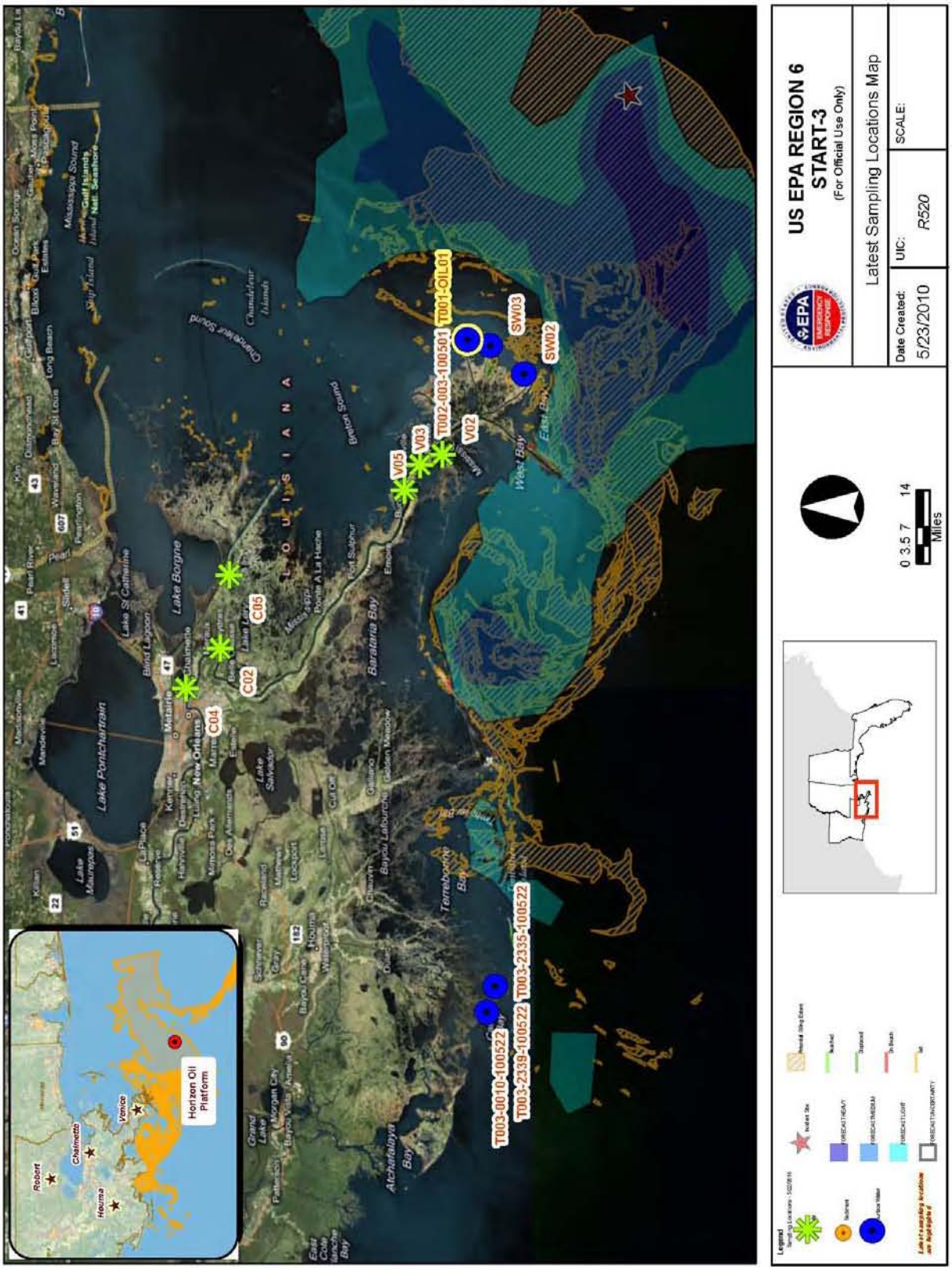
* One TAGA bus has been assigned to Region 4 Operations

4. Daily Cost Estimates

	Est. Personnel Cost	Est. Travel Cost	Est. Contracts/ Purchase Spent	Total Est. Cost/Spent	Total Contract/ Purchase Oblig.	Total USCG PRFA Ceiling	Balance	Est. Daily Burn Rate	Days left
USCG PRFA FPN N10036	$317,918	$151,195	$2,553,246	$3,022,359	$3,403,355	$4,577,819	$1,555,460	$125,566	12
TOTAL EPA FUNDED	$317,918	$151,195	$2,553,246	$3,022,359	$3,403,355	$4,577,819	$1,555,460	$125,566	12
Region 6 Indirect Rate 13.12%						$600,610			
Louisiana Total	$317,918	$151,195	$2,553,246	$3,022,359	$3,403,355	$5,178,429	$1,555,460	$125,566	12

Figure 1 – View of Chalmette water operations collecting a surface water sample.

Monitoring/Sampling Locations

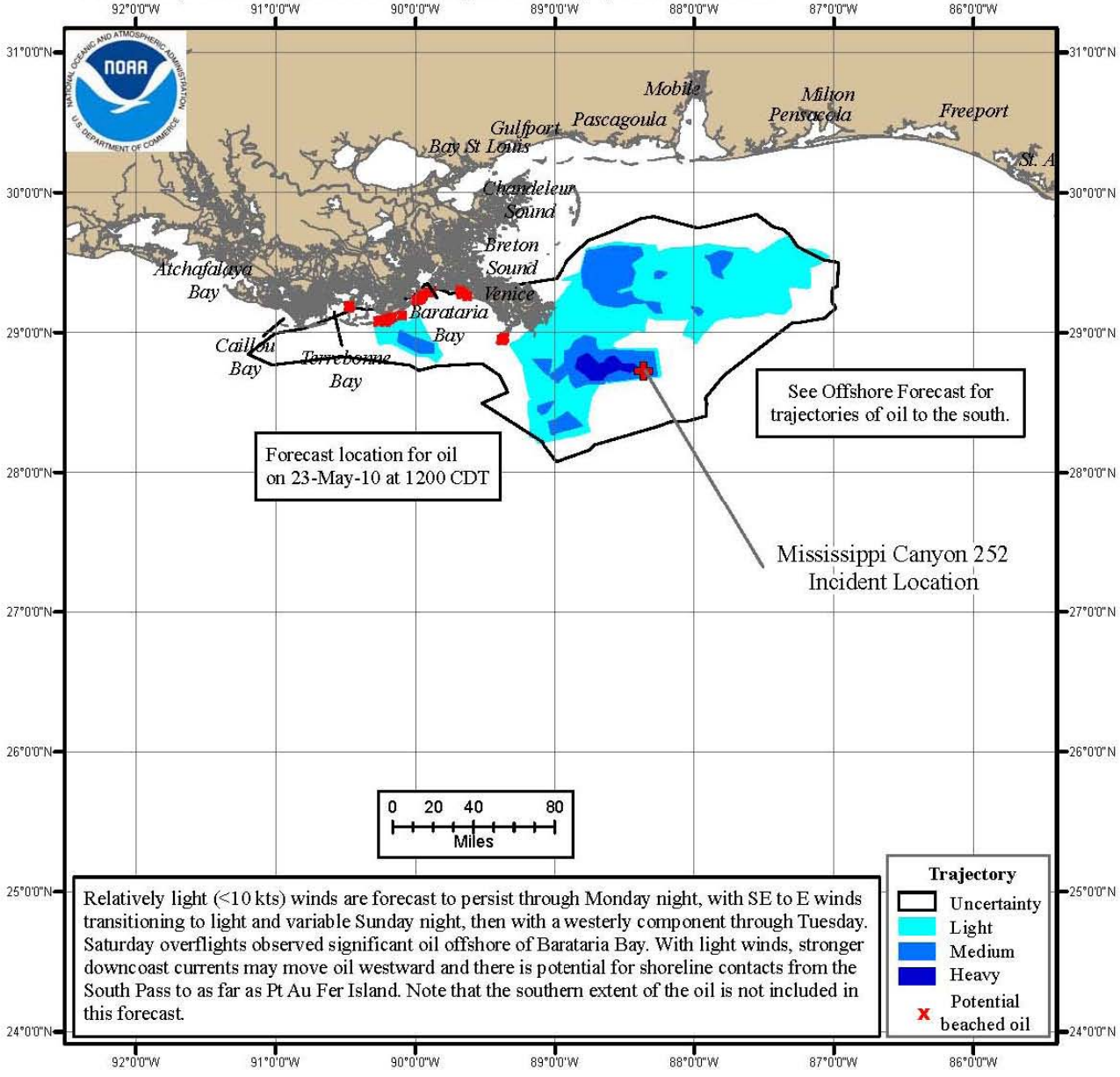


Nearshore Surface Oil Forecast Mississippi Canyon 252

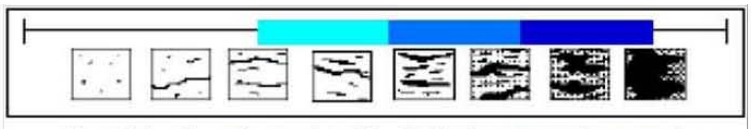
NOAA/NOS/OR&R **Nearshore**

Estimate for: 1200 CDT, Sunday, 5/23/10
Date Prepared: 2100 CDT, Saturday, 5/22/10

This forecast is based on the NWS spot forecast from Saturday, May 21 PM. Currents were obtained from several models (NOAA Gulf of Mexico, West Florida Shelf/USF, TAMU/TGLO, NAVO/NRL) and HFR measurements. The model was initialized from Saturday satellite imagery analysis (NOAA/NESDIS) and overflight observations. The leading edge may contain tarballs that are not readily observable from the imagery (hence not included in the model initialization). Oil near bay inlets could be brought into that bay by local tidal currents.



Relatively light (<10 kts) winds are forecast to persist through Monday night, with SE to E winds transitioning to light and variable Sunday night, then with a westerly component through Tuesday. Saturday overflights observed significant oil offshore of Barataria Bay. With light winds, stronger downcoast currents may move oil westward and there is potential for shoreline contacts from the South Pass to as far as Pt Au Fer Island. Note that the southern extent of the oil is not included in this forecast.



this scale bar shows the meaning of the distribution terms at the current time

Next Forecast:
May 23rd PM